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Arizona Department of Education  
Tom Horne, Superintendent of Public Instruction



Educational Services and  
Resources Division

# CTE FACTS

## Career and Technical Education in Arizona

### *Vision*

**Ensure a dynamic workforce by fully developing every student's career and academic potential.**

### *Mission*

**Prepare Arizona students for workforce success and continuous learning.**

## CTE Programs Address High Growth Occupations<sup>1</sup>

Occupation	Avg Annual Openings <sup>2</sup>	% Increase In Growth 2005-2015	CTE CIP Code
Registered Nurses	2346	48.2	51.1600
Elem School Teachers	2237	39.8	13.1200
Secondary School Teachers	1191	36.9	13.1200
Teacher Assistants	1110	36.5	13.1200
Nursing Aides/Attendants	1037	38.2	51.1600
Painters/Construction/Maint	749	35.2	46.0400
Personal/Home Care Aides	727	36.2	51.1600
Medical Assistants	586	52.2	51.0800
Home Health Aides	523	42.8	51.1600
Dental Assistants	418	46.6	51.0600
HVAC/Refrig Mechs/Installers	394	38.3	47.0200
Pharmacy Technicians	366	49.1	51.0800
Preschool Teachers	305	36.0	13.1200
Cost Estimators	289	37.5	52.0200
Radiologic Technicians	244	43.0	51.0900
Social/Human Service Assts	243	37.0	51.1500
Med Records/Health Info Tech	206	39.6	52.0200

- ✚ Nationwide **education and health services** added **43,000 jobs** in December 2006 contributing to the **455,000 new jobs** in those fields for the entire year with an average wage of \$17.35 an hour. **Professional and business services** added **50,000** positions while **leisure and hospitality** employment rose by **31,000** and **financial firms** added **9,000** new jobs according to John W. Schoen, Senior Producer for MSNBC and Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Economy.com.
- ✚ Thirty years ago the U.S. had 30% of the world's population of college students. Today it is 14%.<sup>3</sup>

**To Quote: "What we have to learn to do, we learn by doing." - Aristotle**

# Top 5 Reasons Dropouts Give for Leaving School<sup>4</sup>

Was failing in school	35%
Had too much freedom, not enough rules	38%
Spent time with those not interested in school	42%
Missed too many days, could not catch up	43%
Classes were not interesting	47%

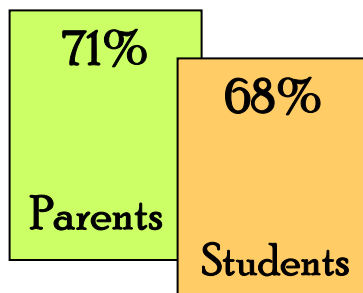
- ✚ 81% of surveyed dropouts felt there should have been more opportunities for real-world learning. Specifically, improve teaching and curricula to make school more relevant and engaging and **enhance the connection between school and work.**<sup>4</sup>

## Best Practices for Reducing Drop-Out Rates of At-Risk Students<sup>5</sup>

### *Five States Employ Characteristics that Emulate CTE Core Values*

*Results Include 80-91% Graduation Rates, 75-92% Placement Rates, 50% Postsecondary Graduate Enrollment*

- ✚ Provided curriculum described as “applied...experiential...hands-on...integrated” that made connections between the school and the world of work.
- ✚ Defined school and students goals...specifically what the student will achieve in school...such as acquiring employability skills.
- ✚ Connected with local businesses and community groups...for involvement and career-related opportunities.
- ✚ Placed a strong emphasis on school-to-work transition and pre-employment skills.
- ✚ Networked with local businesses and agencies.
- ✚ Used hands-on experiential instruction strategies to deliver the curriculum.
- ✚ Emphasized job-readiness skills.
- ✚ Tied academic work to work experience.



## Percentage Who Support Updating High School Programs to Better Match the Skills Employers Want

Reality check 2006: Is support for standards and testing fading? (Public Agenda 2006 Issue No. 3). New York: Author.  
<http://www.nccte.org/re/060717d.asp>

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<sup>1</sup>Arizona Department of Economic Security with U.S. Dept of Labor, BLS. <http://www.workforce.az.gov/?PAGEID=67&SUBID=144>

<sup>2</sup>Average Openings equals opening from growth plus opening from separations (defined as when workers leave an occupation there is an opening created)

<sup>3</sup>*Tough Choices or Tough Times*, National Center on Education and the Economy, December 2006. ISBN: 978-0-7879-9598-0

<sup>4</sup>Bridgeland, Dilukio, Jr., Morison, et al., "The Silent Epidemic", March 2006. Based on survey of 25 varied socio-economic locations throughout U.S. of 16-25 year-olds

<sup>5</sup>Fager, Paglin, "Alternative Schools: Approaches for Students at Risk", NW Regional Educational Laboratory, September 1997. Northwest Sampler: AK, ID, MT, OR, WA